Application No.: Not yet assigned Attorney Docket No. 7040.0212.00 Preliminary Amendment—Filed January 7, 2005

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification, as follows:

Page 1, line 3, add the following new paragraph in the form of a section heading prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The present invention relates to a process"

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 1, line 3, add the following new paragraph in the form of a section subheading after the heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" added above and prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The present invention relates to a process"

Field of the Invention

Page 1, line 12, add the following new paragraph in the form of a section subheading prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "Conventionally, the production of"

Description of the Related Art

Page 6, line 34, add the following new paragraph in the form of a section heading prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The Applicant has noted that"

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 15, line 13, add the following new paragraph in the form of a section heading prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The present invention is now further illustrated"

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 15, line 22, add the following new paragraph in the form of a section heading prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "For simplicity of description"

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

Add a new page 48 after the claims, adding the following ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE. A new, separate page 48 including the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE is enclosed.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for continuously producing an elastomeric composition includes metering and feeding at least one elastomer and at least one filler into at least one extruder, mixing and dispersing the at least one filler into the at least one elastomer using the at least one extruder, and passing the composition that results through at least one static mixer. An apparatus for continuously producing the composition includes at least one twin-screw extruder, at least one

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metering device, and at least one static mixer. The at least one extruder includes a housing and two screws rotatably mounted in the housing. The housing includes at least one feed opening and a discharge opening. The at least one metering device meters and feeds at least one elastomer and at least one filler into the at least one extruder. The composition discharged from the discharge opening passes through the at least one static mixer.